

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 143784  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:WMATTHEWS:BGT  
APPROVED BY ARA:WHLUERS  
ARA/CEN:DJOHSON (DRAFT)  
PM/MC:SUSHINSKY (DRAFT)  
S/S-O :LRMACFARLANE  
P - DO'DONOHUE

-----030208 211755Z /42

O 211748Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 143784

STADIS/////////////////////////////////  
EXDIS - TO UNDER SECRETARY PHILIP C. HABIB FROM LUERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, GT, UK, IS

SUBJECT: TRANSIT LICENSE FOR ISRAELI ARMS TO GUATEMALA  
GRANTED

1. EMERGENCY REQUEST FOR TRANSIT LICENSE FOR 4,000  
ISRAELI-MANUFACTURED GALIL RIFLES FOR GUATEMALA WAS  
GRANTED BY DEPARTMENT JUNE 17. ARMS WERE ABOARD A KLM  
CHARTERED JET WHICH REFUELED AT KENNEDY AND DEPARTED  
IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER FOR GUATEMALA. REQUEST WAS MADE  
ONE HOUR BEFORE PLANE'S ARRIVAL. PLANE HAD ORIGINALLY  
INTENDED TO LAND AT MONTREAL AND OVERFLY THE U.S., BUT  
THE CANADIANS REFUSED PERMISSION ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE OF  
LACK OF ENOUGH ADVANCE NOTICE. PLANE REPORTEDLY DID NOT  
HAVE ENOUGH FUEL TO AVOID LANDING IN THE U.S.

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PAGE 02 STATE 143784

2. PM/MC CONFIRMED THAT THESE RIFLES WERE PART OF THE  
ISRAELI CONTRACT FOR 15,000 OF WHICH WE WERE AWARE.

3. LICENSE WAS GRANTED BECAUSE IMPOUNDING THESE ARMS OR  
TURNING THEM BACK TO ISRAEL WOULD HAVE BEEN A SUBSTANTIAL  
PUBLIC EXTENSION OF AN INFORMAL HOLD ON ARMS TO GUATEMALA

BECAUSE OF BELIZE TENSIONS. NOT GRANTING THE LICENSE  
WOULD HAVE HAD SERIOUS NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS ON OUR RELA-  
TIONS WITH GUATEMALA AND WOULD HAVE POSSIBLY CAUSED PROB-  
LEMS WITH ISRAEL AND THE NETHERLANDS AS WELL. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, LICENSES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE143784  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WMATTHEWS:BGT  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770221-0671  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770634/aaaabecv.tel  
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**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** d6406479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS, STADIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2080481  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRANSIT LICENSE FOR ISRAELI ARMS TO GUATEMALA GRANTED  
**TAGS:** MASS, GT, UK, IS  
**To:** GEORGETOWN  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d6406479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009